United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
Federal Building• 75 High Street • Suite 320 • Morgantown, WV 26505-7500
Phone: 304.284.4860 OR 1.800.295.8228 • Fax: 304.284.4893 • TDD: 304.284.4836 • Web: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wv

Gail Bennett, Public Information Coordinator - 304.284.4875

Kingwood Main Street Program, Inc. Approved For Federal Grant

Morgantown, WV – June 15, 2006: State Director Robert M. Steptoe, III today announced that **Rural Development** approved a Rural Business Enterprise Grant of \$94,000 for Kingwood Main Street Program, Inc., Preston County, WV.

Rural Development funds will be used to restore and/or renovate the 1886 Parson's building located in downtown Kingwood to be used as an art gallery for local Preston County artisans.

Steptoe remarked, "This project is expected to create 14 jobs and benefit 14 businesses. It is a project that exemplifies West Virginia Rural Development's commitment to the sustainability and future of our rural communities."

Rural Development serves as the lead Federal entity for rural development needs and administers program assistance through its rural housing programs, rural business programs, and rural utilities programs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Further information on USDA Rural Development may be obtained by visiting USDA's web site at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov. In West Virginia, call 1-800-295-8228 to be put in touch with the appropriate personnel serving your county. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202.720.2600 (voice and TDD).

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